

Historic, Archive Document

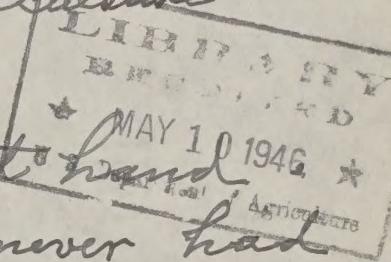
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(Rockville, Mo. Written about December 12, 1945)

(Return address on envelope "J. F. Tiedke, C/o Mrs Stone, 301 West Monroe St., Bloomington, Ill.")

United States Department of Agriculture
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Gentlemen your letter of Dec. 4th at hand.
In answer to same will say that I never had a commercial Nut tree Nursery, sold only the surplus which I could not use to people in the neighborhood. — My holdings are all in one inclosure of 236 acres and located in Bates County Mo. drainage district No 1. — As the drainage district contains 40,000 acres its length 23 1/2 miles all good black soil, it looked to me like a good place to invest my savings, my desire was a good corn farm but this turned out to be a pitiful failure the water comes quicker and goes down quicker but ruins all farm crops just the same.
The natural wild seedlings pecan trees saved my investment of which I had 1,000 trees all over 50 years old, having put in 14 years as a boy and young man in a fruit tree, ornamental trees shrubs and roses Nursery known as Phoenix Nursery Bloomington Ill. came handy to me, I have at this time 1000 bearing seedling pecan trees averaging 2 ft in diameter and 3000 grafted pecan trees from 6 to 50 ft high about 1/2 of them bearing besides 22 wild plum clumps grafted and budded to Gold, Burbank, Abundance, and Mammoth Golden plums. Maximum crop of plums 615 gallons and pecans 14,000 lbs. — The biggest overflow we had in May 1943 the water got 14 1/2 ft deep on my place and in the 25 yrd. I lived near there, we had 35 overflows.
I am a single man, was 89 yrs old Nov 11th 1945, have retired from work in the fall of 1943.
Will gladly answer any other question as to above, wild life there, moonshiners, bootleggers, snakes etc.

Respectfully Yours

J. F. Tiedke

DEC 14 1945

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